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Contracting Official Name Renita Tyus					Branch/Mail Code:					
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### PERFORMANCE WORK STATEMENT

Scientific Consulting Group, Inc. Contract Number: EP-C-08-010 Work Assignment No. 3-49

TITLE: National Conference on Hardrock Mining Remediation:

Remedial Approaches and Technology Development

**PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** CO Approval - June 30, 2012

WORK ASSIGNMENT COR: Douglas W. Grosse

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Research and Development

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**PROJECT OFFICER:** Verla Sutton-Busby

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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(Mail Code 8102R)

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#### 1. BACKGROUND:

Hardrock mining has played a significant role in the development of economies, consumer products and defense in the United States from the start of industrialization. Currently, the industry continues to play a critical role in the development of our country. Mining waste which is generated from both operating and abandoned mining sites continues to be a problem for human health and ecosystems. Much of this waste can be attributed to copper, iron ore, uranium and phosphate mining. In addition to generated waste rock, mill tailings, smelter slag and associated dump/heap leaching waste and drainage contribute to this environmental impact. Due to the extent of these problems, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in conjunction with other Federal Agencies including the Department of Energy (DOE), Department of the Interior (DOI) and the Department of Defense (DOD), is continually promoting dialogue and the dissemination of current relevant information on approaches to restoring areas adversely impacted by mining activities.

Many organizations are currently involved in developing, evaluating and implementing technologies to assess and remediate impacts from hardrock mining activities. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) National Risk Management Research Laboratory (NRMRL) is currently involved in several research programs involved with the treatment and/or remediation of mining sites, primarily in the Western Unites States. The Land Remediation and Pollution Control Division (LRPCD) and its Engineering Technical Support Center is providing technical support by performing bench and field evaluations of remedial approaches and innovative technology applications for restoring ecosystems to beneficial reuse. Another major research area deals with the treatment of mining influenced water and wetlands restoration. Another research effort in the National Exposure Research Laboratory (NERL) has developed several pilots which includes stream ecosystem research. Some of the stakeholders participating in this effort include: USEPA (ORD, OSWER, OW, Regions), DOI, DOE, the National Mining Association, Mine Waste Technology Program (MSE Applications Inc.), Academia (UNR, Montana Tech, Colorado School of Mines), and States to name a few.

## 2. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Work Assignment is to provide a forum for the exchange of technical scientific information on current approaches for assessing remedial approaches and technology advances in treating the adverse environmental impacts associated with historical and modern hardrock mining operations in the Western United States. This information exchange will also include other related topics including the improvement of monitoring approaches that quantify ecological condition and assessment techniques to establish causality among multiple stressors. The advancement of these approaches and techniques will lay a stronger foundation for risk-reduction and habitat restoration decisions by improving the means of identifying and prioritizing aquatic ecosystems impacted by mining activities and establishing ecologically-credible cleanup goals. Engineered technology applications also play an important part in managing the remediation of contaminated soils, groundwater, surface water and media at adversely impacted sites. An evaluation of available and applicable technologies that have been

used at these sites is an important tool in implementing sound risk management practices.

#### 3. APPROACH:

ORD's NRMRL proposes to continue the transfer of technical information by sponsoring, in collaboration with other participating agencies and organizations (including Regional Offices), a conference and workshop in the Western United states from November, 2011 to December, 2012 not to conflict with other mining meetings and workshops. It is envisioned that the conference would be split into several parts detailing the various ongoing research efforts of the participating organizations. The suggested agenda may include: (1) a half day plenary session which will include management presentations, overview and stakeholder perspectives; 2) a full day technical conference featuring discussion of standard and innovative treatment technologies, risk characterization and management, modeling and new programs; (3) panel discussions and breakout groups; and (4) a technical poster session. The duration of this meeting will extend over three days depending on the interest and participation of various stakeholders. A CDROM will also be prepared from the technical portion of the program by NRMRL's Land Remediation and Pollution Control Division (LRPCD). The conference location will be in the Denver, CO vicinity and is scheduled to convene the first week of April 2-5, 2012 at the Renaissance Denver Hotel. In addition, the EPA lead conference steering committee will select featured presentations, poster/exhibit displays, potential field trip and meeting format. Facility arrangements shall include provision for a National Mining Team and Abandoned Mine Lands Team workgroup meeting(s) if scheduled.

## 4. SUGGESTED CONFERENCE TOPICS:

Addressing technology applications in remediating impacted soils, groundwater and other media generates the following questions:

- (1) What current research is being performed that should be shared with the scientific community?
- (2) What data gaps exist which tend to hinder the advancement of remediation efforts?
- (3) What land use activities should be considered which drive the various types of remediation activities?
- (4) What are the current state-of-the-science technologies being implemented to remediate environmentally affected areas for both working and abandoned mining sites?
- (5) What new programs are being established to improve waste management, reduce risk and cost and promote eco-restoration of environmentally impacted mining sites?
- (6) How do we best address the impacts to environmentally impaired ecosystems from large abandoned mining sites?
- (7) What is the best use of previously-mined areas (Re-use scenario), and how do we return these impaired sites to a productive use?
- (8) How are mining companies changing the way that they mine to reduce environmental impacts to human and ecological systems now and into the future?

#### 5. AUDIENCE:

This conference and workshop will target the EPA Program Offices, Regional Offices, Federal Agencies, Consortiums, Academia, States, Tribal Nations, local communities, industry and other interested parties and decision makers involved with the management, remediation and restoration of impacted hardrock mining areas in evaluating remedial options and monitoring techniques.

## 6. SPECIFIC TASKS:

- Task 1. The contractor shall participate in steering committee meetings by providing a record of deliberations, agenda development and meeting notes. Prepare a conference call-for-papers, meeting announcement and agenda consistent with the steering committee recommendations. All updates and modifications shall be performed. The meeting announcements will be printed and distributed by EPA. The contractor shall make this announcement consistent with html specifications to be posted on the NRMRL and other available websites.
- Task 2. The contractor shall arrange for all speakers and presenters for the conference. This will include travel arrangements and per diem costs (honorariums) for up to four speakers to be selected by the steering committee. With the concurrence of the EPA WA COR, the contractor shall develop a list of potential attendees from the respective Regional, State, Tribal and local regulatory offices and agencies, as well as industry and other interested parties which have a vested interest in the proceedings.
- Task 3. The contractor shall make all facility arrangements for the conference including meeting rooms, hotel room blocks and visual/audio aids to hold and accommodate the anticipated number of potential attendees (300).
- Task 4. The contractor shall prepare an attendees package (folder) which will include the agenda, the list of speakers with biographies, logistical information and speaker abstracts.
- Task 5. The contractor shall facilitate the conduct of the meeting including registration, information distribution, arrange for all audio/visual requirements, inter-phase with the meeting room staff to coordinate logistics for the conduct of the meeting.
- Task 6. The contractor shall provide a workshop summary which shall include presentation papers, abstracts and other pertinent workshop information in a format consistent with multi-media CDROM development. EPA will produce the CDROM.

Task 7. Lastly, the contractor shall prepare a workshop evaluation form which will, at a minimum, evaluate each technical program speaker, as well as, the overall conference and accommodations.

### 7. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. The contractor shall assume that one trip will be made to the workshop location and including whatever support personnel are necessary to conduct meeting support.
- 2. Resources allocated shall include provision for up to three non-team scientific/technical experts to participate in the technical portion of the program.
- 3. The contractor shall assist LRPCD staff in gathering proceedings information including abstracts, papers and biographic sketches in a format consistent with CDROM development. Similarly, all photo/film opportunities, audio abstracts and other media effects consistent with LRPCD multimedia requirements

#### 8. REFERENCES:

Mine Waste Technology Program, 2003 Annual Report plus subsequent reports.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, CDROM, Interactive Hard Rock Mining 2006 Conference, November, 14-16, 2006, Tuscon AZ.

# 9. SCHEDULE OF DELIVERABLES:

Workplan due within 15 calendar days after receipt of work assignment

- Task 1: Meeting minutes, call-for-abstracts, agenda development and conference announcements, consistent with the steering committee recommendations shall be posted on applicable websites up until the time of the conference. The deliverable dates coincide with conference call scheduling which initially will be approximately once every three to four weeks and every other week within two months of the scheduled conference, which will be convened as soon as mid-December, 2011 and as late as March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
- Task 2: A call-for abstracts will be finalized by the contractor as a deliverable within 5 days of workplan approval and sent out to available (existing) and updated (expanded) potential attendees and speakers. Based on steering committee recommendations the contractor shall coordinate contact for speakers, presenters and exhibitors to be invited to the conference and make honorarium arrangements for up to 4 expert speakers by March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
- Task 3: The contractor shall make all facility arrangements for the conference including meeting rooms, hotel room blocks and visual/audio aids to hold and accommodate the anticipated number of potential attendees (300) within 30 days of work plan approval.
- Task 4: The contractor shall prepare an attendees package (folder) which will include the

agenda, the list of speakers with biographies, logistical information and speaker abstracts two weeks prior to the scheduling of the conference in April, 2012.

Task 5: The contractor shall facilitate the conduct of the meeting including registration information, distribution, arrange for all audio/visual requirements, inter-phase with the conference facility staff to coordinate logistics for the conduct of the meeting.

Task 6: The contractor shall provide a workshop summary which shall include presentation papers, abstracts and other pertinent workshop information in a format consistent with multimedia CDROM development 30 days following the conduct of the meeting.

Task 7: The contractor shall prepare a workshop evaluation form which will, at a minimum, evaluate each technical program speaker, as well as, the overall conference and accommodations to be handed out at the scheduled conference.

# 10. TRAVEL

Per the contract clause Local LC-31-08, Approval of Contractor Travel, any non-local travel directly chargeable to this work assignment shall be submitted and approved by the proposed travel dates at the time of the conference.

# 11. EPA GREEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS

"When soliciting quotes or offers for meeting and conference services on behalf of the EPA, the contractor shall follow the contract EPAAR clause 1552.223-71, EPA Green Meetings and conferences. More information about EPA's Green Meetings initiative may be found on the internet at http://www.epa.gov/oppt/greenmeetings/."

# 13. MANAGEMENT CONTROLS

Technical direction for this work assignment is provided by the work assignment performance work statement, by the work plan developed to implement this work assignment by the contractor (after it has been accepted and approved by the EPA Contracting Officer and by the contractor's designated management representatives. Periodic meetings between the EPA and contractor work assignment managers are encouraged to discuss any questions that may arise during performance or completion of this work assignment. At the EPA WA COR's discretion, these meetings may occur via teleconference or video conferences. The contractor shall document these meetings and submit copies of this correspondence to the EPA WA COR.

The contractor shall meet with the EPA WA COR to present and discuss the work plan for this work assignment before it is approved by the EPA CO. With the exception of the EPA WA COR, Alternate WA COR and PO, EPA personnel are not authorized to provide technical direction to the contractor.

The EPA WA COR may identify one or more EPA technical representatives for this work

assignment. Interaction between the contractor and any EPA technical representative(s) designated by the EPA WA COR is solely for the purpose of presenting and discussing the information, analyses, results, or presentations related to this work assignment. These interactions do not result in direction to the contractor.